IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF PUERTO RICO

IN RE:

CIVIL ACTION NO. 96-2443(CCC)

RIO PIEDRAS EXPLOSION LITIGATION

THIS DOCUMENT RELATES TO ALL CONSOLIDATED CASES HEREIN

MOTION WITHDRAWING LEGAL REPRESENTATION

TO THE HONORABLE COURT

COMES NOW, the undersigned counsel, and to this Honorable Court respectfully states, alleges and prays:

- 1. Due to reasons of a personal and professional nature, the undersigned hereby requests leave from this Honorable Court to withdraw as counsel for third party defendant Bermúdez & Longo, S.E. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the law firm of Cobián & Valls will remain as counsel for said third party defendant.
- 2. It is also respectfully requested that a reasonable term be given to the law firm of Cobián & Valls to appoint counsel for third party defendant Bermúdez & Longo, S.E. and to appear in this proceeding.

WHEREFORE, it is respectfully requested that this Honorable Court grant this motion.

I HEREBY CERTIFY: that on May 17, 2004, I electronically filed the foregoing with the Clerk of the Court using the CM/EMF system which will second notification of such filing to the following: Ramón Bauzá Higuera, Esq., Bauzá & Dávila, Fortaleza 63, Viejo San Juan, Puerto Rico 00901; Francisco A. Besosa, Esq., Axtmayer Adsuar

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At Caguas, Puerto Rico, this 17th of May, 2004.

s/ RAFAEL J. VELÁZQUEZ VILLARES USDC 214302 Attorney for third party defendant Bermúdez & Longo, S.E. VELÁZQUEZ & VELÁZQUEZ LAW OFFICES, P.S.C. PO Box 734 Caguas, PR 00726-0734 Tel. 787-744-7272 Fax 787-744-7277

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